



Tour de Houston presented by Apache Corporation | Annual Bike Ride Rules of the Road

- The Tour de Houston is a ride, not a race. Be careful and courteous to all riders.
- This is not a closed route. Peace officers and Ride Marshals are present to provide support along the route.
- Know your limits! Choose mileage you are sure you can ride. This speed distance/time calculator can help you decide the appropriate mileage: [Speed Distance Time Calculators](#)
- Helmets are required for all participants. If you are not wearing a helmet, you will not be allowed to ride. There are no exceptions.
- Follow the posted start times for desired mileage:
 - 45-Mile Training Ride Route – 8:00am
 - 20-Mile Intermediate Ride Route – 8:30am
 - 10-Mile Family Ride Route – 9:00am
- No riders will be allowed to leave the Start Line after 9:30am.
- Routes are secured until 1:00pm. After that time, riders have the option to hop on the sag wagon or continue the ride without support.
- Be aware of changing road surfaces – watch for cracks, uneven surfaces, manhole covers, etc.
- Scan for traffic, and signal lane changes and turns. Bikes are considered a vehicle and must obey all traffic rules, directions from peace officers, and traffic signals.
- Use caution at all intersections.
- Ride Marshals are on the route for your safety.
- RIDE TO THE RIGHT – Stay in the right lane and be aware of left turn transitions.
- Use verbal and hand signals to announce your intentions (“passing on your left”, “left turn”, “right turn”, “slowing”, “stopping”).
- Be predictable. Maintain your line and speed. Don’t accelerate or slow down suddenly.
- Travel in a straight line unless you are avoiding hazards or passing another rider.
- Ride NO MORE than 2 abreast.
- Slower riders ride as far RIGHT as possible to allow faster riders to pass on the left.
- Ride Marshals will be on the route for your safety and can assist with problems on the road.
- Should you need assistance, pull completely off the road, remove your helmet, and use it to wave for help.
- No use of headphones, mobile phones, Bluetooth devices, handheld cameras, trailers, or tag-a-longs during the ride.